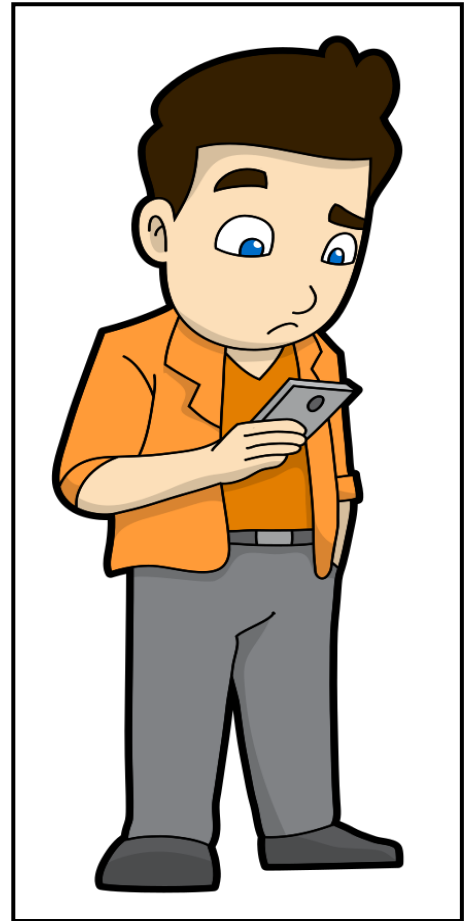


Smart Phone - Dumb User

By Rick W Cotton

Read the poem given below and do as directed:

My new phone is "smart." I guess that I'm not.
Amazing what all this here smart phone has got.
TV and Weather and Internet, too.
There's just no limits to what it can do.
Check my blood pressure and my temperature
Without even probing all my apertures.
I now know the time in Paris or Greece.
I can track the migration of thousands of geese
Or find Chinese food; it's here on this map.
Oops, my finger just slipped, now where was that at?
A camera...a CAMERA! Now I can take shots
Of everyone I know (who'd rather I not).
Push this here button and take me a "selfie."
(If it had a nose would this thing take a "smellfie"?)
Email to pester with, video to shoot,
Maps to drive 'round with, wow that's a hoot!
A compass to guide me home if I'm lost.
Thank God work paid for this thing (what it COSTS!).
The things that it does would amaze Mr. Bell.
What he would have thought of it, no one can tell,
But one question's still stuck in my middle-aged craw.
Despite all the gizmos that strike me with awe,
They're fun and they're useful and "techy" and all
...But how do I just simply make a phone call?



Based on your reading of the poem, answer the following questions:

1. The poet calls his phone 'SMART' which means:

- (a) The phone is good to look at
- (b) The phone is technologically high end
- (c) The phone is smarter than the poet

2. The poet goes on to call the User 'DUMB' which means:

- (a) The poet can't make sense of all this technology
- (b) The poet is foolish
- (c) The poet is deaf and mute

3. The tone of the poem is:

- (a) Scientific
- (b) Casual
- (c) Sarcastic
- (d) Both (b) and (d)



4. The smart phone would amaze Mr. Bell. Why does the poet feel so?
- Mr. Bell wouldn't understand all its functions
 - Mr. Graham Bell, the inventor of the telephone would never have thought that the communication device he had invented could possibly do so much
 - The super functionality would have baffled Mr. Bell
 - All of the above.

5. Find words from the poem and place them against their meaning in the table given below:

Word	Meaning
(i)	(i) cause considerable resentment
(ii)	(ii) to search into or examine thoroughly
(iii)	(iii) seasonal movement of animals from one region to another
(iv)	(iv) a feeling of respect mixed with fear or surprise

6. The poet has a conversation with the smartphone. Complete the dialogue given below using words from the box at the end of the question:

Poet: Oh, my dear smart phone! I'm feeling so _____. I can't understand all your functions.

Smart Phone: Oh, why not dear dumb User – I can play the TV, tell you the weather, check your BP, help you find a Chinese restaurant just to name a few.

Poet: I just can't get a hang of it. My finger slips and I have reached some other page! Oh! this is so _____.

Smart Phone: Try a little harder dear User. I'm super friendly.

Poet: Oh no. Your functions would have even _____ Mr. Bell. I wonder what he would have thought about you!

Smart Phone: Just that 'I'm SMART' and you are NOT!

Poet: Keep quiet, you necessary evil. I feel defeated, my _____ knows no bounds when I can't even make a simple phone call. All this leaves me _____.

bitter	annoying	anger	vexed	helpless
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CCT Weekly-ENGLISH

ANSWER KEY

1. (b)
2. (a)
3. (d)
4. (d)
5. (i) crawl
(ii) probing
(iii) migration
(iv) awe
6. (i) helpless
(ii) annoying
(iii) vexed
(iv) anger
(v) bitter

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